United Nations S/2003/236

Security Council

Distr.: General
3 March 2003
English
Original: Arabic

# Identical letters dated 27 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 27 February 2003.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-26440 (E) 110303 120303

**Annex to the identical letters dated 27 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council**

## Activities of the IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams in Iraq

**Inspection activities carried out on Thursday, 27 February 2003**

# I. IAEA inspection team

### Group I

A group left the Canal Hotel at 8.40 a.m. and went to the State Company for Electrical Industries, which is owned by the Ministry of Industry and Minerals and is located in the Waziriyah area. The group inspected all the Company's facilities and checked the tagged machinery and the seals on it. On completing its mission, which lasted 2 hours and 30 minutes, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

### Group II

A second group left the Canal Hotel at 8.40 a.m. It performed a motorized radiation survey that included the warehouses of the Saqlawiyah project owned by the Qa'qa' State Company, a desert area in Anbar governorate and the Tariq State Company, which belongs to the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC). On completing its mission, which lasted 2 hours and 30 minutes, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

# II. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

The team left the Canal Hotel at 9.40 a.m. and went to the office of Dawud Brothers, which belongs to the private sector. The team met the manager of the office and asked him about contracts concluded with MIC companies. It also requested to see and examine the contracts and to inspect the computer located in the office. On completing its mission, which lasted 3 hours, the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

# III. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

### Group I

The group left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and went to the Veterinary Pharmaceuticals Research and Production Centre, which is owned by the Ministry of Industry and Minerals. The group met officials of the Centre and asked them about the Centre's study and research projects and about cooperation with other medical entities. On completing its mission, which lasted an hour, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

**Group II**

The group left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and went to Aziziyah bomb destruction site. It watched the excavation operations currently in progress at the site and observed the bombs and pieces of shrapnel that were excavated. The shrapnel was weighed and the number of bombs computed. On completing its mission, which lasted 4 hours and 30 minutes, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

## IV. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

**Group I**

The group left the Canal Hotel at 8 a.m. and went to the site of the defunct Muthanna Establishment. It observed the operation of perforating and emptying the material from 155-mm shells being performed by Iraqi technicians. On completing its mission, which lasted 5 hours and 30 minutes, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

**Group II**

Two helicopters took off from Rashid airfield at 9.30 a.m. and flew to the North Refineries Company located at Bayji, in Salah al-Din governorate. The group enquired about the changes that had taken place in the Company since 1998, the number of employees and the Company's branches. It then inspected the Company's storage areas and the central control and water treatment units. On completing its mission, which lasted 5 hours, the group returned to Rashid airfield.

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# Security Council

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## Identical letters dated 28 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 28 February 2003.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-26446 (E) 070303 070303

**Annex to the identical letters dated 28 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council**

## Activities of the IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams in Iraq

**Inspection activities on Friday, 28 February 2003**

## I. IAEA inspection team

The team left the Canal Hotel at 9.40 a.m. Using vehicle-mounted equipment, the group made a radiation survey of several sites, including plant and offices belonging to the Ministry of Oil and the Ministry of Industry and Minerals in the Habibiyah district of Baghdad, in order to detect any proscribed radioactivity. The team concluded its mission, which lasted one hour and forty minutes, and then returned to the hotel.

## II. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

The team left the Canal Hotel at 9.10 a.m. and went to the Harith Company which belongs to the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC). The team tagged a number of Volga missiles at the company. The team concluded its mission, which lasted one hour and forty minutes, and then returned to the hotel.

## III. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

### Group I

The group left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and went to the bomb destruction site in the Aziziyah area. The team counted the bombs and also weighed fragments that had been retrieved, as well as numbering and labelling several bombs. The team concluded its mission, which lasted three hours, and then returned to the hotel.

### Group II

The group left the Canal Hotel at 10 a.m. and went to the Seed Purification Centre which belongs to the Atomic Energy Organization. The group inspected the areas around the warehouses and the nearby ruins and took the measurements of the warehouse buildings. The group then went to the Mesopotamia Company, which belongs to the Ministry of Agriculture, inspected the wheat purification warehouse and took the measurements of the warehouse buildings. The group then went to a farm located behind the warehouses and took photographs of it. The group concluded its mission, which lasted two hours and forty minutes, and then returned to the hotel.

## IV. U-2 surveillance aircraft

A U-2 surveillance aircraft entered Iraqi airspace at 10.35 a.m. and made a reconnaissance of various areas in Iraq. The aircraft left Iraqi airspace at 4.50 p.m. The reconnaissance operation lasted six hours and 25 minutes.

United Nations S/2003/238

Security Council

Distr.: General
1 March 2003

Original: English

## Letter dated 28 February 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of China and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit texts of the joint communiqués of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China on the situation on the Korean peninsula and on the Iraq question adopted in Beijing on 27 February 2003 (see annexes I and II).

We would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annexes were to be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

**Wang** Yingfan
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

03-26530 (E) 040303 040303

## Annex I to the letter dated 28 February 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of China and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese and Russian]

On 27 February Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Igor Ivanov and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Tang Jiaxuan expressed profound concern over the situation in the Korean peninsula.

Guided by their sincere desire to assist the strengthening of peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, Russia and China call upon all concerned parties to exert the necessary efforts towards a peaceful and just resolution of the situation on the Korean peninsula.

The sides emphasize that ensuring the non-nuclear status of the Korean peninsula, the observance there of the regime of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the preservation in that region of peace, security and stability meet the common aspirations of the international community.

The sides note that a constructive and equal dialogue between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has great significance for resolving the situation around the "North Korean nuclear problem" and normalizing American-North Korean relations.

The sides regard as necessary the continuation of an active dialogue and the further development of cooperation between North and South Korea. This process constitutes a substantial contribution to improving the situation on the Korean peninsula and in North-East Asia as a whole.

The sides take into account the position stated by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the absence of an intention to create nuclear weapons and the desire signified by the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to resolve the problems by peaceful means.

The sides reiterate that Russia and China are ready to make every effort to facilitate the American-North Korean dialogue and, in a bilateral and multilateral format, to contribute actively to a political solution of the Korean nuclear problem and the preservation of peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Russia and China intend to continue to develop good-neighbourly, friendly ties and cooperation with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea.

## Annex II to the letter dated 28 February 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of China and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese and Russian]

On 27 February Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Igor Ivanov and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Tang Jiaxuan held an in-depth exchange of views on the Iraq question and reached a broad mutual understanding.

The sides expressed serious concern over the tensions around the Iraq question.

The sides favour a resolution of the Iraq crisis by political and diplomatic means within the framework of the United Nations. Resolution 1441 (2002) unanimously adopted by the United Nations Security Council on 8 November 2002, and the other relevant resolutions provide the necessary legal basis for that.

Russia and China proceed from the assumption that inspection activities by the United Nations Monitoring Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) play an important role in the matter of resolving the Iraqi question, have achieved definite progress and should proceed further. The United Nations Security Council should strengthen the guidance and support of inspection work.

The sides emphasized that Iraq should fully, strictly and undeviatingly comply with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and may not possess any weapons of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles. Iraq should be fully aware of the importance and urgency of inspections. The sides called upon Iraq to maximally build on cooperation with UNMOVIC and IAEA and to cooperate more broadly, actively and qualitatively with the inspectors, thus creating the necessary conditions for a political resolution of the Iraqi question.

The sides reiterate their firm resolve to continue to help a political resolution of the Iraq question in every possible way, and proceed from the assumption that a war can and should be avoided. The international community is everywhere demanding that all the measures should be taken for the maximum prevention of military action. These aspirations should be respected.

The sides emphasized that the Security Council bears the main responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and should, guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, continue to play a central role in resolving the Iraq problem. All Member States of the United Nations must respect and protect the authority and powers of the United Nations Security Council.

The sides are determined to continue to maintain their close contacts and cooperation in order to encourage a political resolution of the Iraq question on the basis of the principles of the United Nations Charter.

United Nations A/ES-10/220–S/2003/239

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
4 March 2003

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**General Assembly**
**Tenth emergency special session**
Agenda item 5
**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

**Security Council**
Fifty-eighth year

## Identical letters dated 4 March 2003 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, continues to perpetrate war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations against the Palestinian people as the occupying forces continue to launch assaults and raids against civilian areas throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. With the continuation and escalation of this Israeli military campaign, the casualties and destruction being endured by the Palestinian people continue to mount dramatically. In this regard, it is my deepest regret to inform you that the number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 has now tragically surpassed 2,200. These martyrs include Palestinian men, women and children from every sector and every generation of our society.

In the most recent attacks against the Palestinian civilian population, the Israeli occupying forces have killed at least 24 Palestinians, including a pregnant mother and several children. This most recent wave of Israeli attacks began on Sunday, 2 March, with an Israeli assault on Khan Yunis in the Gaza Strip. During that assault, the Israeli occupying forces killed three Palestinians and wounded more than 10 others. This was followed by the invasion of the Bureij refugee camp in the Gaza Strip yesterday, 3 March 2003, in which dozens of Israeli tanks and armoured personnel carriers, backed by helicopter gunships, raided the camp, killing at least eight Palestinians and wounding many others. Among those killed was a 33-year-old Palestinian woman, Nooha Swidan Al-Makadmeh, who was in her ninth month of pregnancy. She was killed, while cradling and protecting her two-year-old daughter, when she was crushed to death in her home as Israeli occupying forces blew up homes during the assault on the camp. The woman died before reaching hospital as neighbours carried her on foot to a clinic while the occupying forces prevented ambulances from reaching the area to treat the wounded. Six other members of Mrs. Makadmeh's family were also wounded in the attack, including her husband and two young sons. Further, among the several other Palestinians killed yesterday by the Israeli occupying forces were two young Palestinian boys.

03-26743 (E) 040303

During this same attack on the Bureij refugee camp, the Israeli occupying forces caused extensive destruction to homes and infrastructure. The occupying forces deliberately demolished four homes in the camp and damaged at least 11 other houses, rendering them completely uninhabitable, and leaving almost 150 people homeless. Moreover, the occupying forces caused damage to a nearby mosque and violated its sanctity when they entered it, purportedly to search for weapons. Windows of the mosque were smashed, and several bullet holes, identified as helicopter gunfire, were found in its walls. Several copies of the Koran were found damaged on the floor.

In recent days, the Israeli occupying forces have also carried out assaults in other towns and cities throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in the Nablus area. One Palestinian man, Mohammed Hassan Ali Abdellatif Issa, was killed when he was shot yesterday by the occupying forces at a checkpoint in Nablus. He bled to death before reaching the hospital. Further, yesterday, the occupying forces continued to take over homes and buildings in the Old City of Nablus and took measures to block entrances to the area. During this raid on Nablus, the occupying forces abducted and detained several Palestinians, in addition to the many others detained in Ramallah, Jenin and in the vicinity of Al-Khalil. It has been reported in this regard that more than 45 Palestinians have been detained by the Israeli occupying forces over the past 24 hours alone. At the same time, recent days have witnessed more incidents of Israeli settler violence and harassment targeting Palestinian civilians. Today, a Palestinian boy, aged 14, was shot in the stomach by illegal Israeli colonial settlers firing from a car at a group of Palestinians in the village of Asawya near Nablus. This attack was preceded yesterday by settler attacks on several Palestinian homes in the area.

All of the above-mentioned cannot be considered just part of a routine list of the daily events taking place in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. These acts perpetrated by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian people constitute grave breaches of international humanitarian law. Indeed, these acts, including, inter alia, the wilful killings of civilians, the wanton destruction of property, the illegal detention of persons and the collective punishment of the entire civilian population, constitute war crimes and atrocities by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people. These crimes and atrocities have continued unabated since the onset of this vicious Israeli military campaign in September of 2000. Clearly, without urgent intervention by the international community to address this ongoing crisis, the bloodshed and suffering of the Palestinian people at the hands of the Israeli occupying forces will continue. A lack of political will and continued complacency by the international community in this regard will only allow Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to act with impunity, with mounting losses and hardship for the Palestinian people as a result.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 159 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 24 February 2003 (A/ES-10/219-S/2003/207), constitute a basic record of the crimes committed by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Accordingly, in follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, it is my regret to inform you that, since our last letter to you, the Israeli occupying forces have killed at least 24 Palestinians, including children, raising the total number of Palestinian martyrs to 2,203. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified thus far are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

## Annex to the identical letters dated 4 March 2003 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

## Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem* (Monday, 24 February 2003, to Tuesday, 4 March 2003)

**Monday, 24 February 2003**

1. Mohammed Mahmoud Mohammed Al-Mismi
2. Abdullah Mohammed Alsaba' Al-Kafarneh
3. Mohammed Mahmoud Saleh Houwaiti

**Tuesday, 25 February 2003**

1. Ala'a Jawdat Mahmoud Abu Sharkh
2. Ahmed Khalil Abu Elwan (13 years old)

**Wednesday, 26 February 2003**

1. Fathi Mahmoud Saleh Abu Jibareh

**Friday, 28 February 2003**

1. Mohammed Yussef Ahmed Al-'Aloul

**Sunday, 2 March 2003**

1. Mohammed Mare'i Abdelhady
2. Abdullah Deeb Al-Asar
3. Abdelrahman Mustafa Jadallah (9 years old)
4. Aziza Deeb Ali Al-Qaseer Barakat

**Monday, 3 March 2003**

1. Tarik Saidi 'Aqel (13 years old)
2. Nooha Swidan Al-Makadmeh
3. Mohammed Ali Al-Babli
4. Fadi Fayez Al-Hawagri
5. Mutasem Hamed 'Aqel
6. Maher Mohammed Al-Rifae'
7. Waleed Abdellatif Al-Khatib
8. Rami Mohammed Yussef Awad
9. Najwan Mohammed Al-Salihi (17 years old)
10. Mohammed Hassan Ali Abdellatif Issa

**Tuesday, 4 March 2003**

1. Hisham Mohammed Mahmoud Amr (18 years old)
2. Abdullah Al-Ashhab
3. Basil Ali Abbas

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 2,203.

United Nations S/2003/240

Security Council

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3 March 2003

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## Letter dated 26 February 2003 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP).

The Governments of Argentina and Chile in the context of their cooperation on peacekeeping matters, wish to include a platoon-sized unit of troops plus two staff officers from Chile in the Argentine contingent of UNFICYP without an increase in the total number of personnel in the Argentine contingent. Following the usual consultations, I intend to accept this proposal.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

03-26582 (E) 040303

United Nations S/2003/241

Security Council

Distr.: General
3 March 2003
English
Original: French

## Letter dated 3 March 2003 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 26 February 2003 (S/2003/240) concerning your intention to accept the proposal of Argentina and Chile to include a platoon-sized unit of troops plus two staff officers from Chile in the Argentine contingent of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Mamady **Traoré**
President of the Security Council

03-26576 (E) 040303 040303

United Nations S/2003/242

Security Council

Distr.: General
3 March 2003

Original: English

# Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representative of the United States of America on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a note verbale dated 10 February 2003 from the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, stating that Mr. Gordon Olson has been appointed alternate representative of the United States of America on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that communication constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

03-26562 (E) 030303

United Nations S/2003/243

Security Council

Distr.: General
3 March 2003

Original: English

# Special report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor

## I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1410 (2002) of 17 May 2002, in which the Council decided to establish, as of 20 May 2002, for an initial period of 12 months, the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET). In paragraph 7 of that resolution, the Council decided that the "downsizing of UMMISET should proceed as quickly as possible, after careful assessment of the situation on the ground" and in paragraph 13 requested to be kept closely and regularly informed of progress towards the implementation of the resolution including, in particular, progress towards achievement of the milestones in the mandate implementation plan.

2. In this context, the present report describes significant changes in the situation on the ground that have taken place since my report of 6 November 2002 (S/2002/1223) that suggest the need for a review of the Mission's downsizing schedule. It includes specific proposals for adjustments to the downsizing plan to allow the Mission to accomplish its mandated tasks successfully by June 2004 within this changed environment.

## II. Political and security context

3. The mandate implementation plan that was endorsed by the Security Council was prepared at a time of optimism. In the months preceding the establishment of UNMISET, Timor-Leste had successfully held two national elections, both of which had taken place without violence. The establishment of the country's Government, public administration, police and armed forces was proceeding smoothly.

4. This progress continued in the following six months, as reflected in my report to the Security Council of 6 November 2002 (S/2002/1223). The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste formally took its place among the nations of the world on 20 May 2002, and shortly thereafter became the 191st Member State of the world Organization. The foundations were developed for a strong relationship between Timor-Leste and neighbouring countries. While the economic situation and the threat of terrorism presented significant challenges to the new Government, the mandate implementation and mission downsizing plans endorsed by the Security Council appeared to remain a valid and realistic road map for the immediate future.

03-26256 (E) 040303

5. However, the period since my previous report has seen a sharp increase in the frequency and magnitude of security-related incidents. These have demonstrated the scope of problems that might still emerge and the inadequacy of the means to address them, and they strongly suggest the need to adjust the downsizing plan for UNMISET to reflect changed circumstances.

6. The potential for grave civil disturbance became clear with the riots that erupted in Dili on 4 December 2002. While earlier disturbances in Baucau from 18 to 26 November 2002 had suggested that the Timor-Leste police could face exacting challenges in urban areas, the riot in Dili was on a quite different scale. It developed from a protest at the Parliament building, and was manipulated by elements that directed those involved to targets that were apparently selected to undermine the authority and legitimacy of the Government. As was reported to the Security Council at the time, in the course of these riots, numerous buildings were destroyed by arson, including houses owned by the Prime Minister and members of his family and foreign-owned businesses, and other buildings were looted. Seventeen Timorese sustained gunshot injuries, and two of them died. The mosque in Dili was damaged, and houses within its compound were burned. Efforts to restore order were slow to take effect, revealing a number of weaknesses that are discussed below.

7. A further serious incident took place on 4 January 2003, when a group of 20 to 30 men armed with automatic weapons attacked villages near the town of Atsabe, in Ermera district. Five people were killed during these attacks. There were suggestions by local officers and members of the communities involved that the victims included people who were targeted because of their pro-independence political backgrounds, and that former militia members were involved; however, the precise motivation for the violence in Atsabe, the source of support for the assailants and the degree to which they were part of a larger group have not been satisfactorily established.

8. In response to a request from the Government, UNMISET temporarily handed over responsibility for the defence of an area of operations around these villages to permit the Timor-Leste defence force (Falintil-FDTL) to conduct a sweeping operation. In the following days more than 90 people were arrested, all but 39 of whom were released immediately by the police. Those remaining in custody were sent to Dili for further judicial action and subsequently released by a Timorese judge.

9. On 24 February, a small group of men armed with semi-automatic weapons attacked a shuttle bus travelling from Maliana in Bobonaro district to the capital. Two people were killed in the attack, and five were injured. UNMISET military and Timorese and United Nations police were deployed to the area immediately. On 27 February, an UNMISET military patrol exchanged fire with a group of armed men in the area, apprehending one. However, at the time of reporting, the motivation for the attack on the bus remains unclear.

10. In addition to these armed attacks, there is now an increasing amount of credible evidence to suggest that former militias and armed groups may be establishing bases within the country with the objective of undermining stability. This includes testimony by a member of an armed group arrested in Liquica district in early January suggesting that several other, similar groups have been established in Timor-Leste to create instability in the country, drawing on external means, although without any official endorsement. Recent sightings of suspicious groups,

the discovery of caches of weapons in rural areas and increases in thefts of food and cattle all seem to support such concerns. These incidents have had a disquieting impact on the country, which is at a very early stage in its economic and political development.

11. It seems reasonable to expect further challenges. Increased activity of armed groups may be generated by politically motivated elements, as well as by criminals. Those who seek to create difficulties can draw upon a largely youthful and unskilled population, which suffers a very high rate of unemployment, has as yet little knowledge and experience of political mechanisms to address such problems and has had extensive exposure to violence in the past.

12. This situation may be exacerbated by elements within the former refugee population located in Indonesia close to the Tactical Coordination Line. Former militia personalities retain a degree of influence among the approximately 28,000 former refugees remaining in Indonesia (according to figures of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) and are actively involved in cross-border trade; some have accumulated considerable wealth from a mixture of legal and illegal activities. This threat is likely to remain extant throughout the remainder of the UNMISET mandate and beyond, although supportive actions by the Indonesian military would contribute to mitigating and containing it. The Government of Indonesia has indicated that it intends to resettle former East Timorese refugees. Voluntary migration to other provinces could significantly improve the security environment. While Indonesia has begun the process, it has so far been unable to implement it fully due to financial and other constraints.

13. The 30 June target date for a finalized agreement on a line that constitutes the border remains in effect, but the accomplishment of this objective is not assured. During the first meeting of the Joint Border Commission between the Governments of Timor-Leste and Indonesia, held in Jakarta on 18 and 19 December 2002, the two Governments reaffirmed their commitments in this regard and agreed on a set of technical specifications and a work plan. A subsequent meeting of a technical group on border demarcation and regulation, which was initially postponed, is now scheduled to take place in March.

14. Border delineation, and subsequent demarcation, if decided, are clearly of great importance in terms of removing a potential irritant to future relations between the neighbouring countries. At the same time, it must also be recognized that this cannot be a panacea for all security problems, and that even a well-defined border will remain porous.

15. Indonesian military authorities have indicated that their policy is not to demilitarize their side of the border, where they will maintain a troop and not a border police presence. The Timor-Leste Government is nonetheless proceeding with plans for police and civilian authorities to assume responsibility for border management.

## III. Addressing security challenges

16. In the uncertain environment described above, it is essential that the necessary security capability be in place to safeguard and build upon all that has been achieved over the past three years. However, the events of recent months suggest that serious

deficiencies in Timorese and international capabilities already exist, and can invite further problems; these deficiencies would be exacerbated if UNMISET continued to follow its current downsizing plan.

17. At least a year of further development is required before the Timorese police are in a position to address the more demanding kinds of problems that have emerged over the past few months. Their premature engagement in such activities runs the risk of weakening them and of lowering their public standing. Furthermore, if the police are seen to be ineffective, there will be increasing political pressure to involve Falintil-FDTL in activities for which it is not mandated, trained or equipped, and which could undermine its own essential development process.

18. On the basis of its mandate to provide interim law enforcement and public security, to assist in the development of the Timor-Leste police, and to contribute to the maintenance of external and internal security in Timor-Leste, UNMISET has a crucial role to play. However, the downsizing plans that were endorsed 10 months ago would, if followed without change, further weaken the Mission's real and perceived ability to respond. Adjustments are necessary if UNMISET is to maintain security effectively in the short term and to prepare the Timorese agencies to assume their full responsibility in the future.

19. At the request of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, former Military Adviser Maurice Baril led a review and assessment mission to UNMISET from 15 to 23 January 2003, as the Department's first Inspector-General. The aim of the mission was to review the capability of UNMISET to implement its mandate and to meet future challenges. The recommendations in the present report are supported by and draw upon his findings, as an external expert, regarding key areas where sustained or increased capacity is crucial for UNMISET to achieve its mandate.

## A. Revised military strategy

20. As reflected in my report of 17 April 2002 (S/2002/432, paras. 87-98), the military component of UNMISET was mandated to provide continued support for the external security and territorial integrity of East Timor, while ensuring timely handover of responsibilities to Falintil-FDTL and to relevant public administration departments. The downsizing plan was predicated on the assumption that the threat from former militia elements would gradually diminish, that new threats of a similar scale would not emerge and that major civil disturbances would not occur, so that challenges on the ground would be on a scale for which Timor-Leste security agencies could assume an increasing level of responsibility.

21. However, in the evolving security situation described above, these earlier assumptions no longer appear valid. The military component lacks the necessary capacity and mobility to respond effectively or take a sufficiently proactive role to address the threats, and has inadequate ability to obtain and process information. Were downsizing to continue, significantly reduced troop densities would not deter the serious security threat posed by armed bands in rural areas, while the diminished military presence in the westernmost districts would ease the task of criminals or other elements intent on moving illegally across the Tactical Coordination Line. At the same time, UNMISET would face still greater obstacles in assisting in the event of large-scale civil disturbance. While planning for Timor-Leste police is being

adjusted, the measures proposed to enhance their capacity could produce substantive results by January 2004 at the earliest.

22. Adjustments to the military strategy and configuration of UNMISET in the following areas could help it to promote stability and to provide the time required for the Timorese security agencies to become operationally ready to assume their tasks:

- Establishment within an extended zone adjacent to the Tactical Coordination Line of a sufficient military presence to deter and respond to incursions and incidents until such time as the threat is effectively contained and the necessary Timorese capability to meet the threat is operational.
- Maintenance of a security presence in other parts of Timor-Leste to assist the police in ensuring stability.
- Improved ability to use information to assist in the tactical employment of the infantry forces available, as well as greater coordination and exchange of information with UNMISET police and with Timor-Leste security agencies to improve effectiveness.
- Improved air and land mobility to enable more effective use of forces available and more timely response in the event of incidents requiring employment of peacekeeping forces.
- Promotion of relations with the public and improved public information capability to enhance understanding of the military component's role and to counter potential misinformation campaigns.

23. These adjustments would be adopted within the context of a simplified, two-phase plan for the military component's deployment until the conclusion of its mandate.

**Phase 1: from the present to December 2003**

24. During the first phase UNMISET would retain primary responsibility for ensuring security, addressing problems that greatly surpass the present capability of Timor-Leste security agencies and allowing them to mature and develop. A larger military presence would be maintained in an expanded area adjacent to the Tactical Coordination Line. A sector headquarters would be maintained in the area to unify the command of forces deployed to limit incursions. At present satisfactory progress is being made towards the planned handover of border crossing points in mid-2003, and a specialized Timor-Leste police border patrol unit will be deployed to its positions along the border by the end of June 2003. When the management of border crossing points is handed over, the military component will retain the capability to respond upon the request of UNMISET police or to address an imminent threat to security.

25. These tasks would entail the maintenance of the current level of military deployment, at 3,870 troops, although the component would be reconfigured to emphasize the capabilities identified above. To ensure that a force of this limited size is capable of timely response, it will be essential that troop-contributing countries provide the Force Commander with the flexibility required to employ the portion of his force best placed and equipped to undertake the tasks at hand. This phase would be concluded once the relevant Timor-Leste agencies had attained adequate operational capability to respond to threats to internal security, particularly within the border area, and to respond to significant armed threats elsewhere. The Timor-Leste Government is now reviewing plans to significantly enhance the

capability of the Timor-Leste police in both areas, while their ability to respond to civil disturbance is also being developed.

26. The Government has expressed a desire to adopt a comprehensive arrangement governing the relationship between the Falintil-FDTL and the military component of UNMISET that would make clear the terms under which each of the two sides would conduct their respective individual operations in the region of the Tactical Coordination Line and would define the terms of cooperation for any joint actions. It will be important in the coming months to find appropriate ways to address their needs, with the full understanding and support of troop-contributing countries, while ensuring that the necessary political and practical arrangements are in place. Timor-Leste has also indicated a willingness to enter into bilateral arrangements for enhancing defence and security.

**Phase 2: from December 2003 to May 2004**

27. Once the prerequisite Timor-Leste capability and capacity are operational and able to take a lead responsibility in addressing the challenges cited above, the military component will be reconfigured to act as a deterrent and to respond preventively to threats to the security environment. Other efforts will include operations to retain the trust and confidence of the people of Timor-Leste, including through public information, as well as close cooperation and information-sharing with Timor-Leste agencies. The component would include 1,750 troops organized in two response battalions, one of which would be located in the west and the other centred in Dili.

28. During this phase final preparations would be made for the conclusion of the handover of defence responsibility to Falintil-FDTL on 20 May 2004. A protocol should also be developed to provide an appropriate structure for the Timor-Leste defence force to back up the police, as required. The corresponding arrangement within UNMISET offers one possible model for such a protocol. Adequate development of police capabilities in the previous phase is essential to ensure that requirement of such back-up support from Falintil-FDTL to the Timor-Leste police is required only as a last resort.

29. On completion of the mandate, the peacekeeping force would cease operations and concentrate on the orderly extraction of remaining forces in the most expeditious manner possible.

## B. Revised policing strategy

30. The development of a professional and capable police force in Timor-Leste is essential if the State is to respond to threats to law and order in a way that respects human rights and favours long-term stability by strengthening public trust in the police. Support for the development of such a force represents a key part of the UNMISET handover plan and of the legacy that the United Nations should leave to the country.

31. Significant progress has been made: the Timor-Leste police, now at a strength of 2,530, have assumed executive authority for all routine policing matters in 6 of 13 districts. At the same time, the Government is seeking to lay the legislative foundations to ensure the independence of the Timorese police. However, recent

developments have demonstrated that, on the basis of its present strength, organization and training, the Timor-Leste police are not yet in a position to address the more difficult types of security threats that Timor-Leste is likely to face. Furthermore, the period ahead presents inherent difficulties. Those districts that were first handed over were those that were less subject to crime or political instability. Some districts, such as Baucau, Viqueque and Dili, will pose significantly greater challenges.

32. Further training and preparation are essential if the force is to respond with the confidence and restraint that are crucial for lasting popular support and gaining public trust. Already, efforts are under way to promote the force's ability to contain civil disorders in urban areas, through further training of the Rapid Intervention Unit. In addition, the Government is reviewing plans to strengthen the capability of the Timor-Leste police to address threats from criminal and armed groups in rural areas and in the region of the Tactical Coordination Line. This capability, which would be deployed in early 2004, would offer a means for the Government to respond to major threats to public order without resorting to the use of military.

33. In this context, the composition and strength of the police component of UNMISET and the schedule for its downsizing would be adjusted to enhance its operational capability to address civil disturbances and to improve capability for the development of the Timor-Leste police to respond to the weaknesses that have emerged. This would include the following specific measures:

- Inclusion of an international formed police unit for one year, to be better prepared for emergencies that exceed the capacity of the Rapid Intervention Unit while it is still undergoing training. The company, which would function under the command of the United Nations Police Commissioner, would be based in Dili, but would also have a capacity for mobility.

- Additional training capacity is required to provide further intensive training to the Timor-Leste police in crowd-control skills, including in the appropriate use of force in accordance with international standards. Other critical areas for additional training include police administration, finance, logistics, forensics, tactical operations, border security and community policing. This will not require significant expansion of the police component: qualifications, rather than numbers, are crucial at this time. The success of this initiative will depend upon the full commitment of police-contributing countries to identifying police and staff personnel that meet the specialized selection criteria that will be circulated.

- Human rights and rule of law elements will be further emphasized in the UNMISET development and certification process.

- The UNMISET downsizing plan should also be adjusted to allow for the retention of a greater monitoring and advisory presence within districts that have been handed over.

- The joint assessment mission that visited Timor-Leste in November 2002 outlined a road map for the assistance of the international community in the months and years ahead. UNMISET, in consultation with Member States, will assist the Government of Timor-Leste in elaborating the Government's strategy for following up these recommendations with the necessary assistance of the international community. The strategy will reflect the priorities of the national

development plan of Timor-Leste and be underpinned by national policies addressing internal security and law and order. The strengthening of the Timor-Leste police's capability for management reforms, as a foundation for sustainable institutional development, would receive the earliest attention.

34. Bilateral support will also remain crucial in key areas such as investigation techniques, supervision and management, intelligence collection and analysis, surveillance techniques and searching for and detecting bombs, in addition to ensuring that the Timor-Leste police have the required office facilities and accommodation when they are deployed to the districts, in addition to weapons and equipment.

35. In downsizing, UNMISET would ensure that the handover takes place at a pace that does not jeopardize stability while showing sensitivity to the Government's desire to assume responsibility for security issues as soon as is feasible. Planning for the gradual transfer of policing authority to Timor-Leste will be adjusted to include safeguards and arrangements for command and control that will allow the military component to play an active role during the final phase of the Mission's mandate, and will ensure that UNMISET has full control of the mechanism that would trigger military back-up to police.

## IV. Financial implications

36. My proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/57/689 of 5 February 2003) prepared in accordance with my downsizing plan for the Mission (S/2002/432 of 17 April 2002) has been submitted to the General Assembly. A revised budget that reflects changed requirements for the same period will be submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration during the main part of the Assembly's fifty-eighth session, subject to the decision of the Security Council on my reconfiguration plan for the Mission as set out in paragraphs 20 to 35 of the present report.

37. As at 31 January 2003, unpaid assessments to the special account for the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor/UNMISET for the period since the inception of the Mission amounted to $215.6 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at the same date amounted to $2,161.8 million.

## V. Observations and recommendations

38. The international community has made a unique contribution to Timor-Leste, one in which it has reason to take great pride. For most of the past three years, the developments in Timor-Leste have suggested that the country was unequivocally headed towards becoming a success story. But recent developments suggest that the international community will need to provide additional evidence of its commitment to completing successfully the task that it has advanced thus far.

39. The present report offers a reassessment of the situation on the ground, as foreseen by the Security Council, and suggests that the planning that envisaged a steady downsizing of the international presence should be reviewed. It is in this context that the proposals described in section III above are presented for the Security Council's approval: the reconfiguration of the military component and the

adoption of a revised phased approach to its mandate (including retention of its current ceiling until December 2003) to better reflect the current threats; and the enhancement of the operational ability of the international police component as a short-term measure to promote security, with a simultaneous increase in its ability to effectively train the Timor-Leste police to take over responsibility for key tasks from international personnel.

40. These adjustments respond to factors that are external to the operation. They do not represent a change in the broad concept of operations of UNMISET, in its planned date of withdrawal or in its ultimate goal, which is the creation of a viable Timor-Leste State having an adequate and appropriate security capability. The additional resources that they would require are modest compared with the investment made over the past three years, but they could significantly enhance the international community's ability to attain its goals.

41. It has always been clear that plans for this Mission were premised upon the prevailing security situation, and the development of adequate capability on the part of Timor-Leste to assume responsibility for security tasks. The revised plans presented here in response to changed conditions would be kept under constant assessment, and any significant improvement or deterioration in the security environment would be reported to the Security Council with the appropriate recommendations for action.

42. The impact of these adjustments will depend on the full commitment of the Timor-Leste leadership, which shares the view that the measures suggested here can play a critical role in promoting their country's stability and security. Lasting stability will depend upon their strong political support for the rule of law and their continuing efforts to strengthen their country's governance and democratic institutions, including a non-political and professional police.

43. Ongoing collaboration with Indonesia, building upon the statesmanlike and courageous steps taken to date by the leadership of both countries, is also crucial to address, inter alia, the continuing challenge posed by refugees, to find suitable solutions regarding border crossings that can favour social and economic progress, and to adhere to the agreements that have been made regarding the delineation of the border by June 2003. As mandated by the Security Council in paragraph 12 of its resolution 1410 (2002), UNMISET stands ready to assist the two Governments in addressing these and other issues of bilateral concern, including through the contribution made by its office in Jakarta.

44. Bilateral support will also be crucial to supplement the efforts of UNMISET, including in the crucial areas of defence, police, justice and corrections, as well as social and economic development. In addition, after UNMISET concludes its mandate, it is likely that further assistance will be required. A number of options could be explored by Member States, including the deployment of qualified international police to key advisory positions within the Timor-Leste police through multilateral, regional or bilateral working arrangements with the Government of Timor-Leste.

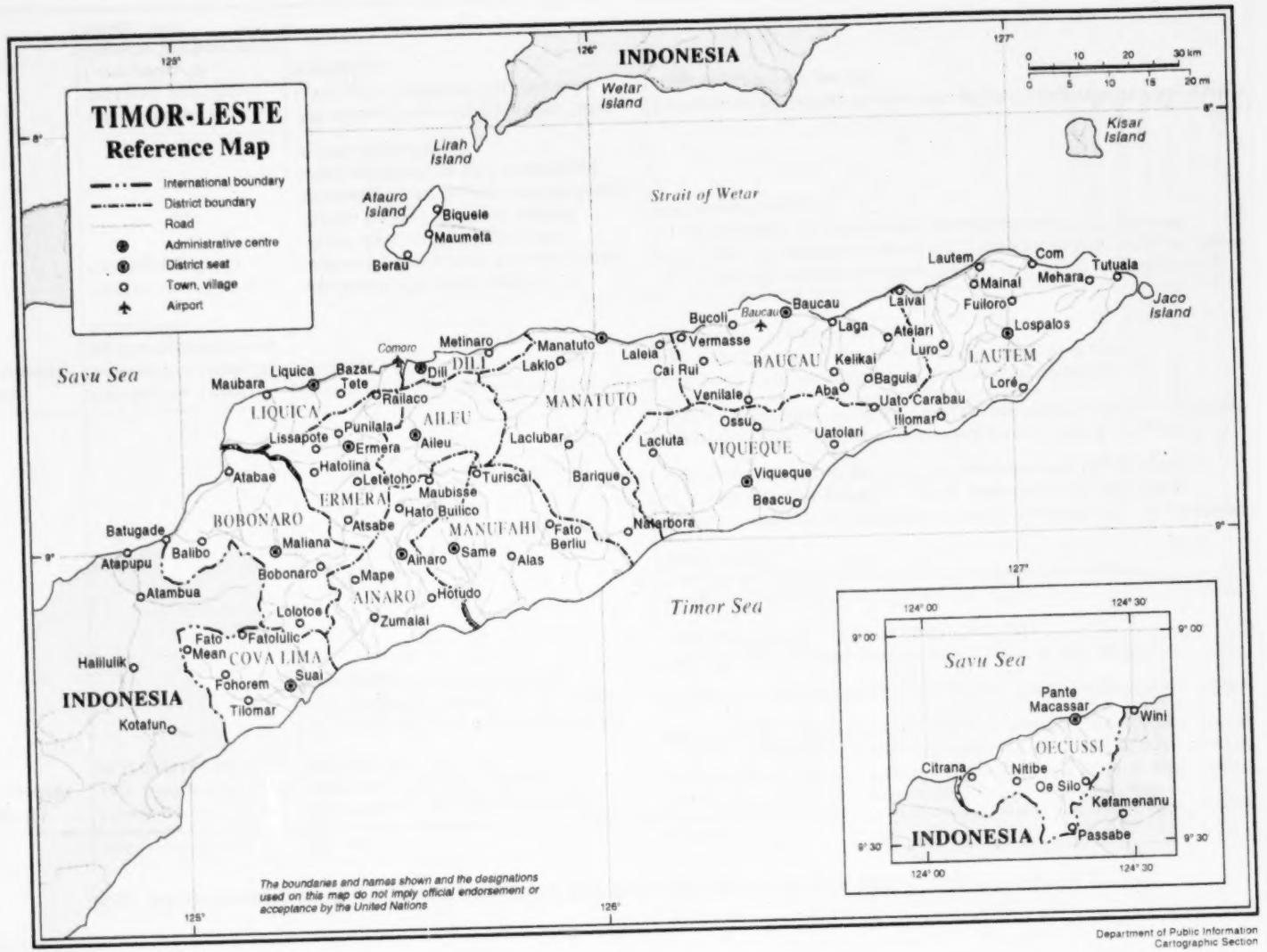
45. The initial, successful progress that was achieved in Timor-Leste may have favoured the development of unrealistic expectations. It is preferable that the international community be reminded, before downsizing has progressed beyond a point of no return, of the fragility of what has been achieved early in the mandate of UNMISET.

46. In relation to the time required for any country to evolve towards statehood, Timor-Leste's development remains extraordinarily rapid. Despite the extraordinary historical, political and economic challenges that the Timorese people have faced, I am confident that with an additional effort by the international community, the success story that seemed so close to becoming a reality will materialize, albeit somewhat less smoothly than had been hoped; and that the stable Timor-Leste that the Timorese people have sought so long, and for which they have sacrificed so much, is within reach.

## Annex

### Key adjustments to the downsizing plan for peacekeeping forces and United Nations police

| *Unit* | *Original downsizing plan* | *Adjustments* | *Objective* |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Military component** | Downsize to 2,780 in July 2003 and to 1,750 in December 2003 | Maintain current strength through December 2003 and downsize subsequently to 1,750<br><br>Reconfiguration to enhance capability and strengthen capacity in key areas, including land and air mobility | Establish within an extended zone adjacent to the Tactical Coordination Line a sufficient military presence to deter and respond to incursions and incidents until such time as the threat is defeated or the necessary Timor-Leste capability to meet the threat is operational<br><br>Maintain a security presence throughout Timor-Leste to assist police<br><br>Improve ability to use information to assist in the tactical employment of the infantry forces available<br><br>Greater coordination and exchange of information with international police and with Timor-Leste security agencies to improve effectiveness<br><br>Improved land and air mobility to enable more effective employment of forces available and more timely response in the event that incidents requiring employment of peacekeeping forces occur<br><br>Promote relations with the public, enhance understanding of the military component's role and counter any misinformation campaigns |
| **Police component** | Reliance on Timor-Leste police capability for riot-control/crowd management | Deployment of an international formed company of police for one year | Respond to riot situations until the Rapid Intervention Unit is operationally ready; establish paradigm for role of police in responding to civil disturbance |
| | General downsizing of training capability | Adjustment of training capability to emphasize priority areas, including crowd-control skills, police administration, finance, logistics, forensics, tactical operations, border security and community police operations, as well as additional human rights training | Strengthen the capability of the Timor-Leste police in areas critical for successful and timely handover of responsibilities; support Timor-Leste's strategy for follow-up to recommendations of the joint assessment mission |
| | 100 police advisers deployed with Timor-Leste police in districts that have been handed over | 200 police advisers deployed with Timor-Leste police in districts that have been handed over | Enhance access for the Timor-Leste police to expertise at a key early stage in hand-over period |




Map No. 4188 UNITED NATIONS
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United Nations S/2003/244

Security Council

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4 March 2003
English
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**Identical letters dated 1 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council**

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 1 March 2003.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-26655 (E) 130303 130303

**Annex to the identical letters dated 1 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council**

**Activities of the IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams carried out in Iraq on Saturday, 1 March 2003**

# I. IAEA inspection team

### Group I

The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. and went to the Ma'mun factory of the Rashid State Company, one of the companies belonging to the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC). It inspected one of the factory's sites and requested information on the main activities being conducted in the plant and on the methods used to ensure production. On completion of the inspection, which lasted 2 hours, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

### Group II

The group left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and went to the site of the Qa'qa' State Company, an MIC company. It inspected the company warehouses, measured the quantities of oil and examined the oil pumps. The group then inspected the Sa'd factory to learn what equipment it contained, then travelled to the firing range at the Nu'man factory. After completing its mission, which lasted 5 hours, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

### Group III

The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. and conducted a motorized radiation survey of the Rashidiyah camp of the Ministry of Defence. The survey covered all of the main and secondary roads of the camp, with the objective of detecting any traces of radioactivity. On completion of the visit, which lasted 4 hours and 20 minutes, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

### Group IV

The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. and went to the site of the Salam State Company, an MIC company. It met with the company managers, from whom it requested information on the activities of the company, its major products and imports since January 2002 and the end-users of its products. On completion of the visit, which lasted 3 hours, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

# II. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

### Group I

The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. and went to the warehouses of a pesticide factory belonging to the Tariq State Company. The group compared the declarations relating to those warehouses with their actual contents.

On completion of its visit, which lasted 2 hours and 20 minutes, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

**Group II**

The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. and arrived at the site of the Muthanna State Establishment (defunct). It took samples of "mustard gas" which had been destroyed and burned 155mm projectile bodies which had been emptied of their contents. On completion of the visit, which lasted 3 hours and 15 minutes, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

## III. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

**Group I**

The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. and went to the bomb destruction area at Aziziyah, which is under the Ministry of Defence. It took samples of the bombs excavated from the pit, photographed them and counted the items discovered. On completion of the visit, which lasted 5 hours, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

**Group II**

The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8 a.m. and went to the Salah al-Din Emergency Brigade, which is under the Ministry of the Interior. It requested information on the tasks of the brigade and then conducted a full inspection of the premises. The group then visited the central workshop of the municipality of Tikrit. It asked questions on the activities of the workshop and inspected all the facilities. The group next went to the site of the Salah al-Din subsidiary of the State Construction Materials Trading Company, which is under the Ministry of Trade. It inspected all the company warehouses. On completion of the visit, which lasted 5 hours, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

## IV. UNMOVIC joint inspection team

Members of the team left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9.10 a.m. and went to the site of the Technical Consultancy Company. They spoke with the director of the company, whom they asked for information on its current activities, its ownership and the main materials it imported. The team then inspected all the company's facilities. Next, it visited the premises of the Press Authority and learned about its computers used for the press and the Internet. On completion of these visits, which lasted 5 hours, the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

## V. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

At 10 a.m., a meeting was held between a group from UNMOVIC and the Iraqi party at the National Monitoring Directorate for the purpose of examining the technical details of the destruction of Sumud 2 missiles as well as determining the location and modalities of their destruction. It was agreed that four missiles would be destroyed that day in the Taji area, once the necessary preparations had been

made to ensure the security of the operation, and that another group from UNMOVIC would supervise the excavation of a solid fuel mould that same day at the Rashid State Company to prepare it for destruction the next day. A calendar and work plan were established for the following days. In accordance with what was agreed above, four Sumud 2 missiles were destroyed that day in the Taji area and the mould was excavated and prepared for destruction the following day.

A group from the UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles) left the Canal Hotel and went to the Air Force College at Tikrit. It inspected all the facilities of the college and spoke with competent persons, who were asked for information on the relationship between that establishment and the drone project. On completion of its visit, which lasted 7 hours and 15 minutes, the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

## VI. Mirage aircraft

An UNMOVIC Mirage aircraft entered Iraqi airspace at 9.40 and left at 11.10 a.m. entering again at 11.30 a.m. and leaving at 12.55 p.m. It reconnoitred various regions of Iraq. The mission lasted 3 hours.

## VII. Meetings (Friday, 28 February 2003)

UNMOVIC requested private interviews with four Iraqi competent persons in a Baghdad hotel. The National Monitoring Directorate informed three of them about the meetings and encouraged them to participate. The fourth specialist could not be informed because he was abroad. The members of UNMOVIC met with two specialists but refused to meet with the third because he insisted that the interview be tape recorded.

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**Identical letters dated 2 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council**

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 2 March 2003.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-26649 (E) 100303 110303

**Annex to the identical letters dated 2 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council**

## Activities of the IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams in Iraq

**Report on activities carried out on Sunday, 2 March 2003**

# I. IAEA inspection team

### Group I

The group left the Canal Hotel at 8.40 a.m. The group performed a motorized radiation survey at Taji Camp II that included both main and side streets and all buildings and was aimed at detecting any radioactivity. The group also determined the coordinates of every site in the Camp. The mission was completed in 4 hours and 15 minutes, after which the group returned to the Hotel.

### Group II

A second group left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and arrived at the Basha'ir Commercial Agencies Company, Ltd. Upon arriving, the group restricted movement within the Company and met with its managing director, enquiring of him about the structure and activity of the Company. It then inspected all the Company's rooms and departments and examined all files and documents, photographing part of them. It also inspected the computers existing in the Company. Upon completing its mission, which lasted 9 hours and 30 minutes, the group returned to the Hotel.

# II. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

The team left the Canal Hotel at 9 a.m. and arrived at the chlorine plant belonging to the Tariq Public Company, which is owned by the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC). The team searched all the plant's units and thoroughly familiarized itself with each unit. It then requested the plant's electrical distribution plan. The mission was completed in 2 hours and 15 minutes, after which the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

# III. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

The team left the Canal Hotel at 8.40 a.m. and arrived at the Aziziyah bomb destruction site belonging to the Ministry of Defence. The team took samples from the bomb and shrapnel burial sites. Upon completing its mission, which lasted 5 hours, the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

## IV. UNMOVIC joint inspection team

The team left the Canal Hotel at 9 a.m. and arrived at an air defence site belonging to the Ministry of Defence. The team met the site commander and enquired about the unit's activities and missile maintenance and storage. The team then inspected all the unit's facilities. The mission was completed in 2 hours and 10 minutes, after which the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

## V. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

**Group I**

A first group left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and arrived at the Technical Battalion at Taji. The group witnessed the destruction of six Sumud-2 missiles. The mission was completed in 5 hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

**Group II**

A second group left the Canal Hotel at 8.45 a.m. and arrived at the Ma'mun factory owned by the Rashid Company. The group witnessed the destruction of the solid fuel pouring mould. Upon completing its mission, which lasted 8 hours, the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

## VI. Interviews

1. On 1 March 2003 UNMOVIC requested individual interviews with four competent Iraqi persons in a Baghdad hotel. The National Monitoring Directorate notified three of them and encouraged them to have the interviews, but it was not feasible to notify the fourth, who is resident outside Iraq. UNMOVIC conducted the interview with one of them but refused to hold interviews with the other two owing to the insistence of one of them that the interview should be documented by means of a sound recording device and the insistence of the other that a friend of his should be present at the interview.

2. On 2 March 2003 UNMOVIC requested an interview with a competent Iraqi person in a Baghdad hotel. UNMOVIC had previously refused to interview the competent person in question, who works in the private sector, owing to his insistence that the interview should be documented by means of a sound recording device. This time he was notified but did not appear at the hotel.

## VII. Surveillance aircraft (Mirage)

The Mirage IV reconnaissance aircraft entered Iraqi airspace at 9.40 a.m. and reconnoitred various areas in Iraq, then left Iraqi airspace at 12.50 p.m. The reconnaissance operation lasted 3 hours and 10 minutes.

United Nations S/2003/246

Security Council

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4 March 2003

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## Letter dated 3 March 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the honour to request the Security Council to consider convening an open briefing for Hans Blix and Mohamed ElBaradei to present their next reports to the larger United Nations membership on 7 March 2003, in the light of the importance that the international community clearly attaches to developments in the Council regarding inspections in Iraq. The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement have expressed their expectations that the Council will continue to display the commendable transparency that it has shown thus far.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Zainuddin** Yahya
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

03-26643 (E) 040303

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Security Council

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**General Assembly**
**Fifty-seventh session**
Agenda items 36 and 49

**The situation in the Middle East**

**Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait**

**Security Council**
**Fifty-eighth year**

## Letter dated 3 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have pleasure in enclosing the Final Declaration of the fifteenth regular session of the Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level, which was held under the chairmanship of the Kingdom of Bahrain at Sharm al-Sheikh, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 1 March 2003 (see annex).

I would appreciate your issuing it as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 49, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Tawfeeq Ahmed **Almansoor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-26709 (E) 120303 130303

## Annex to the letter dated 3 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

**Declaration on the outcome of the work of the fifteenth regular session of the Council of the League of Arab States meeting at the summit level at Sharm el-Sheikh, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 1 March 2003**

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level at its fifteenth regular session, under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness, Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa, King of Bahrain, considered the following questions:

- The serious threats to Iraq and the dangers to the Arab States, the possibility that the situation might lead to a military conflict and the grave repercussions that this would have for the region and for the security of the Arab nation;
- The situation between Iraq and Kuwait;
- The Arab-Israeli conflict, the evolution of the Palestinian question, intensified Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and its impact on peace, security and stability in the Middle East region;
- Report of the Follow-up and Action Committee on the outcome of the Summit;
- Report of the Secretary-General on joint Arab action;
- Development of the system of joint Arab action;
- Support for the Somali Republic.

Taking into account the grave situation of the Arab nation, national commitments and the particular importance of the questions mentioned above, and considering the fact that the leaders are aware of the urgent need to strengthen Arab solidarity, to establish it on a solid foundation and to ensure that at a practical level it serves to protect the higher interests of the nation and to realize its just demands, the Council has adopted the following resolutions:

### The serious threats to Iraq and the dangers to the Arab States, the possibility that the situation might lead to a military conflict and the grave repercussions that this would have for the region and for the peace of the Arab nation

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

1. Having discussed the grave developments in the Iraq crisis,

2. Reaffirming resolution 227 adopted at its Beirut Summit in 2002, in which it categorically rejected an attack on Iraq or a threat against the security and integrity of any Arab State,

3. Reiterating its satisfaction at the assurances given by the Syrian Arab Republic, the Arab member of the Security Council, concerning resolution 1441 (2002), the fact that the aforesaid resolution does not constitute a pretext for waging war on Iraq and the fact that the resolution does not provide for automatic recourse

to military action, thereby expressing the Arab position of support for the international legitimacy represented by the Security Council and its mission of investigating weapons of mass destruction in Iraq,

4. Welcoming again with satisfaction the fact that the Iraqi Government agreed to the return of inspectors, is guaranteeing their complete freedom of movement and is giving them the means to perform the mission entrusted to them by the Security Council as effectively and objectively as possible,

5. Praising international positions opposed to the use of force against Iraq, believing that war would seriously undermine stability in the region and throughout the world,

6. Taking into consideration the many diplomatic contacts pursued by the Arab States with States members of the Security Council, internationally and with the Republic of Iraq in an effort to avoid a war in the region and ensure maximum cooperation with the inspection process, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1441 (2002),

7. Taking note of the reports presented to the Security Council by the chiefs of the two inspection teams on weapons of mass destruction, particularly the reports presented on 14 February 2003, which described the progress achieved with regard to Iraq's cooperation with the inspectors,

8. Taking into account the Security Council's responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, believing that the Council must play its role in dealing with the Iraq crisis in all its aspects by implementing its relevant resolutions, preserving the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Iraq and lifting the sanctions against Iraq,

9. Taking into account the great dangers and adverse consequences that would accompany any military action against Iraq and its people, as well as attempts by Israel to occupy the country in order to carry out its plans to empty the occupied Palestinian territories of their inhabitants and replace them with Israeli settlements, thereby compounding the suffering of the Palestinian people,

**Decides:**

1. To emphasize its categorical rejection of a strike against Iraq or a threat to the security and integrity of any Arab country, believing that this poses a threat to the security of the Arab nation, and to underscore the need to resolve the Iraq crisis peacefully, within the framework of international legitimacy;

2. To call upon all countries to support Arab efforts to avoid a war by ensuring that Iraq implements Security Council resolution 1441 (2002) fully;

3. To request that the inspection teams be given sufficient time to complete their mission in Iraq and to ask them to continue to perform their mission objectively;

4. To emphasize the Security Council's responsibility for ensuring that Iraq and its people are not attacked and for preserving Iraq's independence and territorial integrity, and to underscore the need to guarantee the security, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq's neighbours;

5. To affirm that its member States will refrain from participating in any military action against the security and territorial integrity and unity of Iraq or any other Arab country;

6. To express again its solidarity with the long-suffering Iraqi people and to state that the time has come to lift the embargo against Iraq, within the framework of the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 687 (1991);

7. That the Kingdom of Bahrain will set up a presidential committee in cooperation with the member States, to also include the outgoing President, the incoming President and the Secretary-General of the Arab League, as well as any other States that wish to join. This committee will be responsible for making contact with the international parties concerned and explaining the Arab position, particularly to the permanent members of the Security Council, and for consulting with the Iraqi Government, in the context of the Arab League Summit resolutions on Iraq, on ways to tackle the serious challenges confronting Iraq and the dangers and risks threatening the Arab countries;

8. To emphasize that the affairs of the Arab nation and the development of its regimes are decided by the peoples of the region, based on their national and State interests and free from any outside interference; in this context, the Arab leaders denounce attempts to impose change on the region or interfere in its internal affairs, without regard for its own interests and problems;

9. To view the elimination of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq as part of the process of eliminating weapons of mass destruction in the region, including Israel, in accordance with paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991);

10. To continue to follow closely the evolution of the question of Iraq.

## The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

Having considered resolution 227 adopted at its Beirut Summit in 2002,

**Decides:**

1. To recall the assurances given by the Republic of Iraq at the Beirut Summit that it would respect the independence, sovereignty and security of the State of Kuwait and guarantee its territorial integrity and unity within internationally recognized borders, to emphasize the need for this commitment to be respected in order to avoid any possibility of a repetition of the events of 1990 and to urge the adoption of policies that will make it possible to achieve this goal in a climate of goodwill and good-neighbourly relations. In this regard, the Summit draws Arab leaders' attention to the importance of halting hostile press campaigns and statements, so as to create a positive atmosphere that will assure the two countries that the principles of good-neighbourliness and non-interference in internal affairs are being respected;

2. To urge resumption of the work of the Technical Subcommittee of the Tripartite Commission responsible for questions relating to Kuwaiti nationals held prisoner or hostage since 1990 and 1991, which was reactivated on 8 January 2003, and to commend Kuwait's positive response to all the information provided by Iraq through the International Committee of the Red Cross concerning missing Kuwaiti nationals. The Council hopes that decisive, significant progress will be made in this area. The Council also welcomes the return by Iraq of part of the Kuwaiti archives

and calls on Iraq to return the remaining archives and other property of the Kuwaiti State.

## The Arab-Israeli conflict, the evolution of the Palestinian question, intensified Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and its impact on peace and security in the Middle East region

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

1. Deeply concerned at the grave situation facing the Palestinian people and their national authorities as a result of the continuing and escalating Israeli aggression, which has claimed a large number of victims and caused heavy losses to the Palestinian national economy,

2. Reaffirming its complete solidarity with the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their legitimate rights and its unequivocal support for their committed struggle for these rights,

3. Also reaffirming its earlier resolutions on support for the Palestinian economy,

**Decides:**

1. To pay a resounding tribute to the Palestinian people and their legitimate national leadership, headed by President Yasser Arafat, for their tenacious resistance against the continuing and escalating Israeli aggression that violates the rights of this people and seeks to destroy their capacities, sacred places and national leadership, and to reaffirm its determination to continue to provide all forms of political, moral and material support for the Palestinian people, their heroic intifada and their legitimate struggle against occupation;

2. To consider that the all-out and premeditated aggression by Israel against the Palestinian people, their authorities and their national institutions is aimed at bringing the peace process in the Middle East to a definitive halt and to hold Israel solely responsible for this policy;

3. To reaffirm the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to resist the occupation of their land by Israel and to take action within the framework of respect for international legality and of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and Security Council of the United Nations to defend themselves against the aggressive practices of the occupation forces, manifested in their policies of colonization and the blockading and reoccupation of cities, villages and refugee camps, without mentioning assassinations, arrests, the destruction of infrastructure, homes, religious institutions and medical centres and attacks on international organizations working in the humanitarian field;

4. To take steps to put an end to the aggression of which the Palestinian people are victims, to ensure international protection for Palestinian civilians through the dispatch of an international protection force to oblige Israel to respect the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention and to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make arrangements for the early dispatch to the area of a team to investigate Israeli crimes and identify their authors with a view to bringing them to international justice;

5. To reaffirm the Arab identity of Jerusalem and the rejection of all attempts by Israel to Judaize the city, to consider all the acts and practices engaged in by Israel, as the occupying Power, null and void and in violation of the resolutions that express international legality, to also consider the establishment of settlements in Jerusalem and other parts of the Palestinian territory as a danger that threatens the peace and security of the region, and to reaffirm the support of Arabs for this heroic city;

6. To condemn the rejection by Israel of all initiatives and proposals for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East currently being put forward by various international parties and groups;

7. To reaffirm the commitment of Arab States to the Arab peace initiative put forward at the 2002 Beirut Summit that sets out the bases for a just and comprehensive peace settlement in the region and to hold Israel responsible for the failure of peace efforts;

8. To urge the international Quartet to resume its efforts to bring peace to the Middle East and to find a just and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict based on the Arab peace initiative;

9. To reiterate its earlier resolutions, in which it expressed its commitment to a just and comprehensive peace as an objective and a strategic choice to be achieved through the implementation at all levels of decisions expressing international legality, in accordance with the resolutions of the Security Council and, in particular, resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978), and with resolution 194 (III) of the General Assembly, and to stress the need to take as the point of departure the Madrid Peace Conference and the principle of "land for peace". The Council also stresses that the achievement of this objective requires the complete withdrawal of Israel from all of the Arab territories that it occupies, including the Syrian Arab Golan, back to the lines of 4 June 1967, and from the Lebanese territory still under occupation, including the Shab`a farms area, an end to the occupation of Palestinian lands, and the exercise by the Palestinian people of all of their inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent State on all of their national territory with Jerusalem as its capital, the guarantee of the right of return for Palestinian refugees and the release of Palestinians who have been abducted or arrested and are now in Israeli prisons;

10. To charge the Committee on the Arab Peace Initiative with pursuing and intensifying Arab efforts at the international level and to make the necessary preparations for bringing the question before the Security Council so that this organ can assume its full responsibility in the face of the grave situation existing in the Palestinian territories and its consequences for peace and stability in the region and the world;

11. To reiterate the firm commitment of Arabs to provide financial support for the budget of the Palestinian National Authority for the next six months beginning 1 April 2003 and to automatically renew this assistance under the arrangements established at the Beirut Summit for as long as the Israeli aggression continues, to invite the member States of the Arab League that have not yet done so to make the remainder of their contributions to the budget of the Palestinian

National Authority and to the Al-Aqsa Fund and the Al-Quds Intifadah Fund, in accordance with the decisions of the Beirut Summit;

12. To charge the General Secretariat with continuing its efforts to collect donations from Arab populations in support of the resistance of the Palestinian people and to continue to cooperate with the competent international organizations providing support for the process of development and reconstruction in the Palestinian territories.

## Report of the Follow-up and Action Committee on the outcome of the Summit

The Council of the League of Arab States meeting, at the summit level,

Having received the report of the Follow-up and Action Committee and the recommendations it contains,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the work of the Follow-up and Action Committee and thanks its Chairman and members as well as the Secretary-General for the considerable efforts they have made to ensure the follow-up and implementation of the resolutions of the 2002 Beirut Summit;

2. Requests the Chairman of the Summit (the Kingdom of Bahrain) to hold consultations with Arab leaders and the Secretary-General with a view to reaching an agreement on the composition of the Committee;

3. Charges the Council of Ministers of the League of Arab States with studying, at its next session (119th), the final text of the draft document on the mechanisms and working methods of the Follow-up and Action Committee, which is annexed hereto, and to publish the draft text;

4. Invites the Committee to submit periodic reports on its activities and recommendations to the Chairman of the Summit with a view to their presentation to the next Arab summit.

## Report of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States on joint Arab action

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

Having received the report of the Secretary-General on the various areas of joint Arab action, including the development and modernization of the system of joint Arab action,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on joint Arab action, including the development and modernization of the Arab League system and efforts to ensure that all its institutions are able to respond to national imperatives, and decides to follow developments in the regional and international situation;

2. Notes with appreciation the measures taken by the Secretary-General to implement the Summit resolutions and invites him to continue his efforts in this area.

## Support for the Somali Republic

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

Having received the report of the Follow-up and Action Committee on the outcome of the Summit and the report of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States on joint Arab action,

Reiterating its previous resolutions concerning solidarity with Somalia,

1. Reaffirms the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Somali Republic and rejects any interference in its internal affairs, welcomes the request of the Transitional National Government of Somalia that the League of Arab States should assist in improving security and in the maintenance of peace in Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, and in promoting the process of national reconciliation in Somalia currently taking place in Kenya;

2. Invites the Somali factions to put the interests of their country above all considerations and to return to a common path to resolve conflicts, and urges all parties to observe the ceasefire agreement and to accelerate their efforts to arrive at a political settlement of the Somali crisis that would preserve the country's unity and territorial integrity and permit Somalis to begin the reconstruction of their country and the creation of national institutions;

3. Supports the Somali reconciliation conference, under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the chairmanship of Kenya, as a means of achieving a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the Somali crisis;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his contacts with a view to establishing an international committee at the regional level made up of representatives of all the States and international and regional organizations concerned with the Somali crisis in order to avoid inconsistencies and duplication of work and to enable the Somalis to keep their promises and commitments;

5. Invites the United Nations, the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the group of Sahel and Saharan States, acting in cooperation with the League of Arab States, to establish an emergency programme to restore security and stability in Somalia by disarming the militias and integrating them into the institutions of the Somali State and society;

6. Thanks those member States that have provided support to Somalia directly or through the League of Arab States and invites those that have not yet done so to make their financial contributions as soon as possible to the assistance fund for Somalia, in accordance with the decision taken at the 2002 Beirut Summit;

7. Invites the Ministerial Committee on Somalia and the Secretary-General to continue their efforts to promote reconciliation and unity in Somalia.

## Appreciation and acknowledgements to the Kingdom of Bahrain for its chairmanship of the fifteenth regular session, at the summit level, of the Council of the League of Arab States

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

In recognition of the exemplary performance of His Royal Highness, Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa, King of Bahrain, as chairman of the fifteenth regular session, at the summit level, of the Council of the League of Arab States,

Commends His Royal Highness for the wisdom with which he presided over the work of the session, which was a major factor in the success of the Summit and the achievement of important results that are likely to strengthen the process of joint Arab action and to promote the continued security of the Arab nation.

## Appreciation and acknowledgements to the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the fifteenth regular session, at the summit level, of the Council of the League of Arab States at Sharm el-Sheikh

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

Acknowledging the generous hospitality with which the Arab Republic of Egypt hosted the work of the fifteenth regular session, at the summit level, of the Council of the League of Arab States and its commendable efforts in organizing the work of the session,

1. Extends its warmest greetings and expresses its appreciation to the President, Government and people of Egypt for the warm and hospitable welcome they extended to the delegations which participated in the Arab Summit;

2. Expresses its appreciation to His Excellency President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak for his unstinting efforts to ensure the successful convening of the Summit.

## Date and place of the sixteenth regular session, at the summit level, of the Council of the League of Arab States

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

Based on the provisions governing the chairmanship of the session, at the summit level, of the Council of the League of Arab States contained in the special agreement on the holding of regular sessions,

**Decides:**

That the sixteenth regular session, at the summit level, of the Council of the League of Arab States will be held under the chairmanship of Tunisia in March 2004.

United Nations S/2003/248

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 March 2003

Original: English

## Letter dated 28 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan has decided, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1386 (2001), to contribute to the implementation of the tasks of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan by sending a military platoon unit consisting of up to 30 personnel.

The arrangements for the participation of the Azerbaijani unit have been made in consultation with the leadership of the Force.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Permanent Representative

03-26767 (E) 050303

United Nations S/2003/249

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 March 2003

Original: English

## Letter dated 4 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith an appeal from Khojaly refugees addressed to the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on the occasion of the eleventh year of the Khojaly massacre perpetrated by the Armenian armed forces in 1992.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations

03-26758 (E) 070303 070303

## Annex to the letter dated 4 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

## Appeal from the Khojaly refugees addressed to the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

In appealing to the United Nations, the Council of Europe (CE) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which are authoritative international organizations, we wish to bring to the attention of world public opinion the truth about the Khojaly genocide perpetrated by Armenian armed units in the Nagorny Karabakh region of Azerbaijan in February 1992 and to ensure that this bloody crime is given a legal and political assessment.

Any person who is acquainted with the history of Azerbaijan knows that the town of Khojaly, which is situated in the mountainous part of Karabakh and has existed from the third millennium before the Common Era, is one of the ancient settlements of Azerbaijan. The unique archaeological finds and historic monuments discovered during excavations carried out in the territory of the town of Khojaly are clear proof of this.

The Armenians, who erected a monument in 1978 in the Nagorny Karabakh region on the occasion of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the resettlement of their ancestors from Persia to Azerbaijan, have, in order to achieve the realization of the illusion of "Greater Armenia" at the expense of the historic lands of Azerbaijan, consistently carried out over the past two centuries, with the help of their patrons abroad, an aggressive policy directed against Azerbaijan and, at different periods, have resorted to such crimes against humanity as monstrous acts of terror, mass bloodshed, deportation and genocide in order to attain this insidious goal.

Numerous historical documents demonstrate that millions of Azerbaijanis, who were subjected, during the years 1905-1907, 1918-1920 and 1948-1953 to a policy of ethnic cleansing and genocide in their historic ethnic territories, were in massive numbers murdered and deported from their native lands.

In 1988 Armenian separatists again put forward unfounded territorial claims against Azerbaijan and provoked a new wave of anti-Azerbaijani feeling in Nagorny Karabakh and the territory of Armenia. In 1998 and 1999, more than 250,000 Azerbaijanis, who had lived in their historic ethnic lands in Armenia, were deported. The deportation was accompanied by mass killings of peaceful Azerbaijani inhabitants.

Unfortunately, the bitter suffering of the innocent Azerbaijani population as a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict that was provoked in 1988 was met with indifferent silence on the part of the leaders of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and the civilized world. Encouraged by this situation, the Armenians resorted to a policy of genocide against Azerbaijanis and committed unprecedented historic crimes, one after the other. Armenia's armed forces occupied 20 per cent of the territory of Azerbaijan, including seven administrative districts

that were not part of the Nagorny Karabakh region; more than a million Azerbaijanis were barbarously expelled from their native lands, and tens of thousands of people were murdered, maimed and taken hostage. Hundreds of settlements and thousands of public and cultural buildings, educational and health-care institutions, cultural and historic monuments, mosques, holy places of pilgrimage and cemeteries were obliterated from the face of the earth or subjected to vandalism by Armenians.

The tragedies perpetrated by Armenian armed units during the first years of the conflict in Karabakh villages such as Kyarkijakhan, Meshali, Gushchular, Garadagly, Agdaban and others where Azerbaijanis lived are historic crimes which will remain forever as a black stain on the conscience of the "long-suffering Armenian nation".

On 26 February 1992, the Khojaly genocide was added to the list of such tragedies as Khatyn, Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Song My.

On the night of 25/26 February 1992, Armenian illegal armed units, directly supported by the 366th regiment of the former USSR, stationed at that time in the town of Khankendi, attacked, from five directions, the town of Khojaly, where approximately 7,000 Azerbaijanis were living. (At the time of the attack, there were about 3,000 inhabitants in the town.) By that time, Khojaly had already been under siege by Armenian armed subdivisions for more than four months. The town's inhabitants were in desperate need of medical assistance and food, and among them there were many sick and wounded people, elderly persons, and women and children.

The Armenian bandit units, with the help of foreign mercenaries, obliterated Khojaly from the face of the earth that night. With the support of numerous heavy combat weapons and materiel belonging to the 366th regiment, the town was completely destroyed and burned down. The unarmed peaceful civilian population was subjected to monstrous butchery. Children, women, elderly people and sick persons were destroyed with unprecedented brutality. At the end of the twentieth century, Armenian armed units had perpetrated yet another historic crime — the Khojaly genocide, which brought shame upon civilized humanity. The purpose of this monstrous act was to destroy the town's entire population. Nevertheless, some of the inhabitants of Khojaly, by sheer chance, remained alive, involuntarily becoming witnesses to this grievous tragedy.

As a result of this latest case of genocide, the Khojaly genocide, perpetrated by Armenian illegal armed units against the Azerbaijani people, 613 persons were murdered and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. To this day, the fate of 150 of them is unknown. As a result of the tragedy, more than 1,000 peaceful inhabitants, who received bullet wounds of varying degrees of severity, became invalids; 106 women, 83 small children, and 70 elderly persons were killed. Seventy-six of those who became invalids were boys and girls who had not yet come of age.

As a result of this military and political crime, eight families were completely destroyed, 25 children lost both parents, and 130 children lost one parent.

With particular cruelty and mercilessness, 56 *shekhid* (martyrs) were burned alive. They were scalped, their heads were severed, and their eyes thrust out, and the stomachs of pregnant women were stabbed repeatedly with bayonets.

It is difficult to imagine that such cruelty and acts of brutality perpetrated by man occurred at the end of the twentieth century, before the eyes of the entire world! However, the world must know: the perpetrators of this historic crime, directed not only against the Azerbaijanis, but also against all civilized humanity, are the "long-suffering Armenian people".

For the past 11 years, we the people of Khojaly, living as refugees with pain and at the same time great hope in our hearts, appeal to all peace-loving peoples on earth and to international organizations. We ask you not to remain indifferent and unconcerned about the suffering caused to us and our grief as a result of Armenian armed aggression. We do not believe that authoritative international organizations like the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and peace-loving, powerful countries, are unable to force an aggressive State like Armenia, which is imposing its will on the international community, to observe justice and the norms of international law!

We are certain that the world community will condemn the military aggression by Armenia against Azerbaijan and will assist in ensuring the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, bringing about the return of more than 1 million refugees and displaced persons to their homes, and achieving a peaceful settlement of the Armenian-Azerbaijani Nagorny Karabakh conflict in the context of historic political justice.

We, the people of Khojaly, experienced profound sorrow upon learning of the monstrous terrorist attack that led to the mass destruction of thousands of innocent people in the United States of America on 11 September 2001. This terrible tragedy brought us back to the events that took place 11 years earlier. Eleven years ago, we, the people of Khojaly, and tens of thousands of Azerbaijani refugees and displaced persons personally experienced such terrible grief, and today we are living in tents, train carriages, dugouts, and cellars, sharing the bitter fate of refugees.

We, the witnesses of the Khojaly genocide, who by a miracle remained alive, strongly condemn the terrorist acts of 11 September and, with great hope, once again appeal to the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as well as all progressive world public opinion and once more draw their attention to the need for a political and legal assessment of the Khojaly genocide.

We, the people of Khojaly, who endured one of the most terrible tragedies of the twentieth century, call upon the peoples of the world to undertake a joint struggle for peace and security. We sound the alarm and call upon all international organizations and peace-loving, authoritative States in the world to mobilize all forces to eliminate the hotbeds of war throughout the world and to struggle for a free, happy human society, living in conditions of peace and tranquillity and prospering with every new day!

United Nations S/2003/250

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2003
English
Original: Arabic

# Identical letters dated 3 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 3 March 2003 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-26942 (E) 140303 140303

**Annex to the identical letters dated 3 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council**

**Activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq on 3 March 2003**

# I. IAEA inspection team

### Group I

1. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. for the Sirat State Company for Trade, where it interviewed the managers of the Company and asked questions about the Company's activities in general, the number of staff it employed and the number of its subsidiaries in Iraq and abroad. It asked whether the Company had contracts with the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC) and reviewed the Company's contracts and accounts. At the end of the visit, which lasted five hours, the group returned to the hotel.

### Group II

2. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. and travelled to the site of the Mafakhir Company for Commercial Agencies and Exports Ltd. The group met with the manager of the establishment and asked questions about the Company's activities and affiliations, the number of persons it employed, its administrative structure and its main contracts with the Military Industrialization Corporation. The group inspected the various departments of the Company and reviewed its documents and contracts. At the end of the visit, which lasted six hours and fifty minutes, the group returned to the hotel.

### Group III

3. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.50 a.m. and conducted a radiation survey of the premises of the MIC-affiliated Ibn Sina Company, using vehicle-mounted equipment designed to detect any trace of radioactivity. The company's entire site and all of its installations were surveyed. At the end of the visit, which lasted three hours, the group returned to the hotel.

# II. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

### Group I

1. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. for the Aziziyah bomb-destruction site, operated by the Ministry of Defence. It tagged some of the shells, took samples and counted the total number of shells. At the end of the visit, which lasted four hours and forty minutes, the group returned to the hotel.

**Group II**

2. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. for the Ma Bayn al-Nahrayn State Company for Seeds, which is affiliated with the Ministry of Agriculture. The group met with the manager and asked questions about the Company's history and activities, the number of departments and the main tests carried out on seeds. It asked whether the Company cooperated with other research centres in Iraq. The group then toured the Company's departments and plants. At the end of the visit, which lasted two and a half hours, the group returned to the hotel.

**Group III**

3. The helicopter carrying the group of four inspectors left the Al-Rashid airport at 7.50 a.m. for the Faculty of Science of the University of Mosul. On arrival, the inspectors met with senior members of the Faculty and asked to be shown the location of various laboratories, the numbers of buildings and the number of students enrolled in advanced courses. They also asked for information about cooperation between the Faculty and other faculties and for the names of the teaching staff. The group then inspected all of the Faculty's laboratories and departments. At the end of the visit, which lasted three hours and forty minutes, the group returned to the hotel.

## III. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

**Group I**

1. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. for the National Company for Chemical and Plastic Industries, a private-sector enterprise. The inspectors met with the managers of the Company and asked questions about the type of goods being produced, the raw materials used, and the various types of metals. The group then inspected the Company's manufacturing and administrative installations. At the end of the visit, which lasted two and a quarter hours, the group returned to the hotel.

**Group II**

2. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. for the Muthanna site (no longer operational), which is affiliated with MIC, where it destroyed a quantity of mustard gas-filled shells at the site. At the end of the visit, which lasted four hours and forty minutes, the group returned to the hotel.

## IV. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

**Group I**

1. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. for the headquarters of the Taji Technical Battalion, where it witnessed the destruction of six Samoud 2 missiles and two warheads of the same missile. At the end of the visit, which lasted five hours, the group returned to the hotel.

**Group II**

2. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. to inspect the site of the Karamah State Company at Waziriyah and the Ibn Al-Haytham and Samoud factories in order to verify that production of the Samoud 2 missile had stopped and to check the missile systems and parts. At the end of the visit, which lasted three hours, the group returned to the hotel.

**Group III**

3. The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.50 a.m. for the Ma'moun Factory, belonging to the Rashid State Company, where it witnessed the final stages of the destruction of the first casting chamber and the preparations for the destruction of the second. Some members of the group inspected the Qa'qa State Company to place thermal protective tape on the seals of the Samoud 2 warheads. At the end of the visit, which lasted six hours, the group returned to the hotel.

## V. UNMOVIC joint inspection team in Baghdad

The group left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 10 a.m. for the Ministry of Defence missile arsenal. They met with the officer in charge and asked questions about the layout of the site, why that type of arsenal was being used, whether there were any connections with civilian entities, whether there was a maintenance unit and how many people were employed. The group then inspected all of the storage facilities in the arsenal. At the end of the visit, which lasted one hour and twenty minutes, the group returned to the hotel.

## VI. UNMOVIC joint inspection

**Group I**

1. The group left the Nineveh Palace Hotel in Mosul at 9 a.m. for the site of the Ramah Company for the Production of Spray Irrigation Systems Ltd., a private-sector firm. It met with the manager and asked questions about the Company's current products, the users of those products, the raw materials used and the suppliers of equipment and machinery. The group then inspected the factory site and the administration buildings. At the end of the visit, which lasted one hour, the group returned to the hotel.

**Group II**

2. The group left Mosul airport at 10.30 a.m. to travel to Irbil. It returned a short time later, however, having been prevented from entering the city, which is not controlled by the Iraqi authorities.

## VII. Interviews

UNMOVIC requested private interviews with two Iraqi specialists in a Baghdad hotel. The National Monitoring Directorate informed the individuals concerned of the venue for the interview and encouraged them to attend. The meetings went ahead as planned.

United Nations S/2003/251

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2003
English
Original: French

## Letter dated 5 March 2003 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to my letter dated 14 February 2003 (S/2003/185) in which I informed the Security Council of my four most recent appointments to the Panel of Experts on Liberia, which has been re-established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1458 (2003) of 28 January 2003.

I wish to inform you that, taking into account the requirements stated in resolution 1458 (2003), I have appointed the following expert as the fifth member of the Panel:

Harjit Singh Kelley (Kenya, expert on maritime affairs)

I should be grateful if you would bring this information to the attention of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

03-26903 (E) 070303 070303

United Nations A/57/745–S/2003/252

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2003

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda items 36 and 160

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

**The situation in the Middle East**

**Measures to eliminate international terrorism**

## Letter dated 5 March 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to draw your attention to the latest attack in the ongoing campaign of Palestinian terrorism targeted against the citizens of Israel.

Shortly after 2 p.m. (local time) this afternoon, a powerful explosion ripped apart a public bus in the northern Israeli city of Haifa, scattering human remains and debris throughout the area. At present, 15 people are dead and more than 40 others are wounded, a number of them critically. A spokesperson for the terrorist organization Hamas, which operates openly and freely in Palestinian territory, praised the attack and vowed that such acts will continue.

Today's bombing is merely the latest attempt by Palestinian terrorists to target Israeli civilians. Countless terrorist attacks have been prevented in recent weeks by the extraordinary efforts of Israel's security personnel. In the month of February alone, more than 40 attacks were thwarted. In the past week, Israeli soldiers operating in the Al Pavar and Sha-Anur refugee camps discovered large stores of weaponry intended for use in terrorist attacks. And in mid-January, Israeli police intercepted a terrorist en route to carry out a major attack at Teddy Stadium, a large sports complex in Jerusalem capable of holding thousands of spectators. Countless innocent lives, both Israeli and Palestinian, have been spared as a result of these counter-terrorist measures.

The continuing threat of Palestinian terrorism, along with the success of Israeli security forces in preventing scores of attempted attacks, underscore the absolute necessity of Israel's preventive security measures. While Israel has consistently sought to alleviate the difficulties these measures entail for the Palestinian civilian population, this task is made exponentially more difficult by the criminal tactic of terrorist groups that take refuge in civilian areas, including refugee camps, hospitals and schools. This tactic, which must be uniformly condemned, is a grave violation of international humanitarian law that endangers both Israeli and Palestinian

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civilians. If the global campaign against terrorism is to succeed, it must involve adopting a policy of zero tolerance for such horrific tactics, as well as holding accountable those who continue to glorify murderers as martyrs.

Israel continues to hold the Palestinian leadership responsible for the ongoing campaign of terrorism deliberately aimed at Israeli civilians. Rather than fulfilling their obligations under international law, Security Council resolutions, as well as signed commitments reached with Israel, the Palestinian leadership has chosen instead to use its power and influence to support and encourage acts of violence against innocent civilians. Palestinian television, newspapers, public education and religious institutions remain rife with vile anti-Israeli incitement that provides the inspiration, encouragement and moral sanction that underpin terrorist activity.

Israel calls upon the International community to reaffirm its clear and total rejection of terrorist tactics and to use its authority and influence to compel all regimes that sponsor and incite terrorism to fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with international law, signed agreements and Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 1373 (2001). Only the total rejection of such tactics, and active measures taken to prevent the commission of such brutal attacks, will lay the groundwork for a return to a peaceful process of negotiations capable of satisfying the needs and aspirations of Palestinians and Israelis alike.

I submit this letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism that began in September 2000, which document the criminal terrorist strategy for which the terrorists and their supporters must be held fully accountable.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 160 and 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Arye Mekel**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Security Council

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5 March 2003

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# Letter dated 5 March 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of France, Germany and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

We would like to bring to the attention of the members of the Security Council the joint statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of France, Mr. de Villepin, Russia, Mr. Ivanov and Germany, Mr. Fischer, adopted in Paris on 5 March 2003.

We should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Sig l*) Jean-Marc **de la Sablière**
Permanent Representative of France

(*Signed*) Gunter **Pleuger**
Permanent Representative of Germany

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation

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## Annex to the letter dated 5 March 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of France, Germany and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

## Joint statement by Mr. de Villepin, Mr. Ivanov and Mr. Fischer (Paris, 5 March 2003)

Our common objective remains the full and effective disarmament of Iraq, in compliance with resolution 1441 (2002).

We consider that this objective can be achieved by the peaceful means of the inspections.

We moreover observe that these inspections are producing increasing encouraging results:

– The destruction of the Al-Samoud missiles has started and is making progress;

– Iraqis are providing biological and chemical information;

– The interviews with Iraqi scientists are continuing.

Russia, Germany and France resolutely support Messrs. Blix and El-Baradei and consider the meeting of the Security Council on 7 March to be an important step in the process put in place.

We firmly call for the Iraqi authorities to cooperate more actively with the inspectors to fully disarm their country. These inspections cannot continue indefinitely.

We consequently ask that the inspections now be speeded up, in keeping with the proposals put forward in the memorandum submitted to the Security Council by our three countries. We must:

– Specify and prioritize the remaining issues, programme by programme;

– Establish, for each point, detailed timelines.

Using this method, the inspectors have to present without any delay their work programme accompanied by regular progress reports to the Security Council. This programme could provide for a meeting clause to enable the Council to evaluate the overall results of this process.

In these circumstances, we will not let a proposed resolution pass that would authorize the use of force.

Russia and France, as permanent members of the Security Council, will assume all their responsibilities on this point.

We are at a turning point. Since our goal is the peaceful and full disarmament of Iraq, we have today the chance to obtain through peaceful means a comprehensive settlement for the Middle East, starting with a move forward in the peace process, by:

- Publishing and implementing the roadmap;
- Putting together a general framework for the Middle East, based on stability and security, renunciation of force, arms control and trust-building measures.

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# Security Council

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6 March 2003
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## Letter dated 3 March 2003 from the Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Article 54 of the Charter of the United Nations, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the resolutions of the fifteenth session of the Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level in Sharm el-Sheikh on 1 March 2003, on the following items:

1. The serious threats to Iraq and the dangers to the Arab States, the possibility that the situation might lead to a military conflict and the grave repercussions that this would have for the region and for the peace of the Arab nation (Summit resolution 243 (15) of 1 March 2003) (see annex 1);

2. The situation between Iraq and Kuwait (Summit resolution 244 (15) of 1 March 2003) (see annex 2);

3. The Arab-Israeli conflict, the evolution of the Palestinian question, intensified Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and its impact on peace and security in the Middle East region (Summit resolution 245 (15) of 1 March 2003) (see annex 3).

I should be grateful if you would draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to these resolutions and have them circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yahya **Mahassani**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer

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## Annex 1 to the letter dated 3 March 2003 from the Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

### Resolution

### The serious threats to Iraq and the dangers to the Arab States, the possibility that the situation might lead to a military conflict and the grave repercussions that this would have for the region and for the peace of the Arab nation

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

1. Having discussed the grave developments in the Iraq crisis,

2. Reaffirming resolution 227 adopted at its Beirut Summit in 2002, in which it categorically rejected an attack on Iraq or a threat against the security and integrity of any Arab State,

3. Reiterating its satisfaction at the assurances given by the Syrian Arab Republic, the Arab member of the Security Council, concerning resolution 1441 (2002), the fact that the aforesaid resolution does not constitute a pretext for waging war on Iraq and the fact that the resolution does not provide for automatic recourse to military action, thereby expressing the Arab position of support for the international legitimacy represented by the Security Council and its mission of investigating weapons of mass destruction in Iraq,

4. Welcoming again with satisfaction the fact that the Iraqi Government agreed to the return of inspectors, is guaranteeing their complete freedom of movement and is giving them the means to perform the mission entrusted to them by the Security Council as effectively and objectively as possible,

5. Praising international positions opposed to the use of force against Iraq, believing that war would seriously undermine stability in the region and throughout the world,

6. Taking into consideration the many diplomatic contacts pursued by the Arab States with States members of the Security Council, internationally and with the Republic of Iraq in an effort to avoid a war in the region and ensure maximum cooperation with the inspection process, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1441 (2002),

7. Taking note of the reports presented to the Security Council by the chiefs of the two inspection teams on weapons of mass destruction, particularly the reports presented on 14 February 2003, which described the progress achieved with regard to Iraq's cooperation with the inspectors,

8. Taking into account the Security Council's responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, believing that the Council must play its role in dealing with the Iraq crisis in all its aspects by implementing its relevant resolutions, preserving the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Iraq and lifting the sanctions against Iraq,

9. Taking into account the great dangers and adverse consequences that would accompany any military action against Iraq and its people, as well as attempts by Israel to occupy the country in order to carry out its plans to empty the occupied

Palestinian territories of their inhabitants and replace them with Israeli settlements, thereby compounding the suffering of the Palestinian people,

**Decides:**

1. To emphasize its categorical rejection of a strike against Iraq or a threat to the security and integrity of any Arab country, believing that this poses a threat to the security of the Arab nation, and to underscore the need to resolve the Iraq crisis peacefully, within the framework of international legitimacy;

2. To call upon all countries to support Arab efforts to avoid a war by ensuring that Iraq implements Security Council resolution 1441 (2002) fully;

3. To request that the inspection teams be given sufficient time to complete their mission in Iraq and to ask them to continue to perform their mission objectively;

4. To emphasize the Security Council's responsibility for ensuring that Iraq and its people are not attacked and for preserving Iraq's independence and territorial integrity, and to underscore the need to guarantee the security, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq's neighbours;

5. To affirm that its member States will refrain from participating in any military action against the security and territorial integrity and unity of Iraq or any other Arab country;

6. To express again its solidarity with the long-suffering Iraqi people and to state that the time has come to lift the embargo against Iraq, within the framework of the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 687 (1991);

7. That the Kingdom of Bahrain will set up a presidential committee in cooperation with the member States, to also include the outgoing President, the incoming President and the Secretary-General of the Arab League, as well as any other States that wish to join. This committee will be responsible for making contact with the international parties concerned and explaining the Arab position, particularly to the permanent members of the Security Council, and for consulting with the Iraqi Government, in the context of the Arab League Summit resolutions on Iraq, on ways to tackle the serious challenges confronting Iraq and the dangers and risks threatening the Arab countries;

8. To emphasize that the affairs of the Arab nation and the development of its regimes are decided by the peoples of the region, based on their national and State interests and free from any outside interference; in this context, the Arab leaders denounce attempts to impose change on the region or interfere in its internal affairs, without regard for its own interests and problems;

9. To view the elimination of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq as part of the process of eliminating weapons of mass destruction in the region, including Israel, in accordance with paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991);

10. To continue to follow closely the evolution of the question of Iraq.

Resolution 243 of the fifteenth session of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level, adopted on 1 March 2003.

## Annex 2 to the letter dated 3 March 2003 from the Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

### Resolution

### The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

Having considered resolution 227 adopted at its Beirut Summit in 2002,

**Decides:**

1. To recall the assurances given by the Republic of Iraq at the Beirut Summit that it would respect the independence, sovereignty and security of the State of Kuwait and guarantee its territorial integrity and unity within internationally recognized borders, to emphasize the need for this commitment to be respected in order to avoid any possibility of a repetition of the events of 1990 and to urge the adoption of policies that will make it possible to achieve this goal in a climate of goodwill and good-neighbourly relations. In this regard, the Summit draws Arab leaders' attention to the importance of halting hostile press campaigns and statements, so as to create a positive atmosphere that will assure the two countries that the principles of good-neighbourliness and non-interference in internal affairs are being respected;

2. To urge resumption of the work of the Technical Subcommittee of the Tripartite Commission responsible for questions relating to Kuwaiti nationals held prisoner or hostage since 1990 and 1991, which was reactivated on 8 January 2003, and to commend Kuwait's positive response to all the information provided by Iraq through the International Committee of the Red Cross concerning missing Kuwaiti nationals. The Council hopes that decisive, significant progress will be made in this area. The Council also welcomes the return by Iraq of part of the Kuwaiti archives and calls on Iraq to return the remaining archives and other property of the Kuwaiti State.

Resolution 244 of the fifteenth session of the Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level, adopted on 1 March 2003.

## Annex 3 to the letter dated 3 March 2003 from the Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

### Resolution

### The Arab-Israeli conflict, the evolution of the Palestinian question, intensified Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and its impact on peace and security in the Middle East region

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

1. Deeply concerned at the grave situation facing the Palestinian people and their national authorities as a result of the continuing and escalating Israeli aggression, which has claimed a large number of victims and caused heavy losses to the Palestinian national economy,

2. Reaffirming its complete solidarity with the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their legitimate rights and its unequivocal support for their committed struggle for these rights,

3. Also reaffirming its earlier resolutions on support for the Palestinian economy,

**Decides:**

1. To pay a resounding tribute to the Palestinian people and their legitimate national leadership, headed by President Yasser Arafat, for their tenacious resistance against the continuing and escalating Israeli aggression that violates the rights of this people and seeks to destroy their capacities, sacred places and national leadership, and to reaffirm its determination to continue to provide all forms of political, moral and material support for the Palestinian people, their heroic intifada and their legitimate struggle against occupation;

2. To consider that the all-out and premeditated aggression by Israel against the Palestinian people, their authorities and their national institutions is aimed at bringing the peace process in the Middle East to a definitive halt and to hold Israel solely responsible for this policy;

3. To reaffirm the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to resist the occupation of their land by Israel and to take action within the framework of respect for international legality and of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and Security Council of the United Nations to defend themselves against the aggressive practices of the occupation forces, manifested in their policies of colonization and the blockading and reoccupation of cities, villages and refugee camps, without mentioning assassinations, arrests, the destruction of infrastructure, homes, religious institutions and medical centres and attacks on international organizations working in the humanitarian field;

4. To take steps to put an end to the aggression of which the Palestinian people are victims, to ensure international protection for Palestinian civilians through the dispatch of an international protection force to oblige Israel to respect the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention and to request the Secretary-

General of the United Nations to make arrangements for the early dispatch to the area of a team to investigate Israeli crimes and identify their authors with a view to bringing them to international justice;

5. To reaffirm the Arab identity of Jerusalem and the rejection of all attempts by Israel to Judaize the city, to consider all the acts and practices engaged in by Israel, as the occupying Power, null and void and in violation of the resolutions that express international legality, to also consider the establishment of settlements in Jerusalem and other parts of the Palestinian territory as a danger that threatens the peace and security of the region, and to reaffirm the support of Arabs for this heroic city;

6. To condemn the rejection by Israel of all initiatives and proposals for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East currently being put forward by various international parties and groups;

7. To reaffirm the commitment of Arab States to the Arab peace initiative put forward at the 2002 Beirut Summit that sets out the bases for a just and comprehensive peace settlement in the region and to hold Israel responsible for the failure of peace efforts;

8. To urge the international Quartet to resume its efforts to bring peace to the Middle East and to find a just and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict based on the Arab peace initiative;

9. To reiterate its earlier resolutions, in which it expressed its commitment to a just and comprehensive peace as an objective and a strategic choice to be achieved through the implementation at all levels of decisions expressing international legality, in accordance with the resolutions of the Security Council and, in particular, resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978), and with resolution 194 (III) of the General Assembly, and to stress the need to take as the point of departure the Madrid Peace Conference and the principle of "land for peace". The Council also stresses that the achievement of this objective requires the complete withdrawal of Israel from all of the Arab territories that it occupies, including the Syrian Arab Golan, back to the lines of 4 June 1967, and from the Lebanese territory still under occupation, including the Shab`a farms area, an end to the occupation of Palestinian lands, and the exercise by the Palestinian people of all of their inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent State on all of their national territory with Jerusalem as its capital, the guarantee of the right of return for Palestinian refugees and the release of Palestinians who have been abducted or arrested and are now in Israeli prisons;

10. To charge the Committee on the Arab Peace Initiative with pursuing and intensifying Arab efforts at the international level and to make the necessary preparations for bringing the question before the Security Council so that this organ can assume its full responsibility in the face of the grave situation existing in the Palestinian territories and its consequences for peace and stability in the region and the world;

11. To reiterate the firm commitment of Arabs to provide financial support for the budget of the Palestinian National Authority for the next six months beginning 1 April 2003 and to automatically renew this assistance under the arrangements established at the Beirut Summit for as long as the Israeli aggression

continues, to invite the member States of the Arab League that have not yet done so to make the remainder of their contributions to the budget of the Palestinian National Authority and to the Al-Aqsa Fund and the Al-Quds Intifadah Fund, in accordance with the decisions of the Beirut Summit;

12. To charge the General Secretariat with continuing its efforts to collect donations from Arab populations in support of the resistance of the Palestinian people and to continue to cooperate with the competent international organizations providing support for the process of development and reconstruction in the Palestinian territories.

Resolution 245 of the fifteenth session of the Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level, adopted on 1 March 2003.